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## News And Notes: Volume 16.3

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### *Forthcoming Special Issues*

Topic: Kant's Philosophy of Religion

Date: October 2000

Advisory Editor: Philip L. Quinn

Submission Deadline: January 1, 2000

This special issue is intended to contribute to the ongoing project of assessing Kant's controversial legacy to philosophy of religion. It includes his criticism of the arguments of traditional natural theology, his attempt to justify moral faith in God, freedom and immortality, and his efforts to reconstruct various distinctively Christian doctrines, such as original sin and atonement within the limits of reason. Submissions for the special issue could explicate and critically examine one or more of these parts of the Kantian legacy. They could compare Kant's philosophy of religion with the philosophical theology of his illustrious predecessors (e.g., Leibniz) or the religious thought of his distinguished successors (e.g., Hegel or Kierkegaard). Or they could discuss the significance of Kant's work for philosophy of religion today.

Topic: "Wittgensteinianism and Religion"

Date: October 2001

Advisory Editor: D. Z. Phillips

Deadline for submission: January 1, 2001

Philosophy of religion in the twentieth century has been significantly influenced by the work of Ludwig Wittgenstein. The journal will devote a special issue to this topic on the fiftieth anniversary of his death. Papers are invited on the impact of Wittgenstein and Wittgensteinianism on philosophy of religion, theology and religious studies, on the relation of Wittgensteinianism to other movements in the philosophy of religion, or on specific topics in the Wittgensteinian tradition.

Topic: God and Freedom

Date: October 2002

Advisory Editor: John Martin Fischer

Deadline for Submission: January 1, 2002

The cluster of topics pertaining to God and freedom has been of great interest to philosophers throughout the history of philosophy, as well as currently. Papers for this issue of the journal could explore historical treatments of the issues; alternatively, they could take an ahistorical, analytic approach. Perhaps the most salient question is whether God's omniscience is compatible with human freedom. Authors could explore different conceptions of God's knowledge, including temporal and atemporal conceptions, and conceptions on which God is said to have beliefs and

those on which God is not construed as having beliefs. If God is thought to have beliefs, how are these belief-states similar to (and different from) human belief-states? Also, papers could investigate more and less "robust" views about the range of God's knowledge of future events. Similarly, submissions might consider different conceptions of human freedom and how they relate to God's omniscience; for example, some philosophers have argued that whereas God's foreknowledge rules out human freedom in the sense that involves alternative possibilities, it does not rule out a different sort of freedom (that does not involve alternative possibilities). In addition to these topics, submissions could address other related questions, including, "Does God have freedom (and in what sense)?" and "What is the relation between God's freedom and human freedom? (Are they similar or different? Is human freedom rooted in God's freedom and, if so, how? Does God's freedom limit human freedom? And so on.)"

Topic: Augustine

Date: October 2003

Advisory Editor: Gareth B. Matthews

Deadline for submission: January 1, 2003

Augustine is widely recognized to have set the terms of debate on several of the most philosophically contentious issues in Christian thought, including the problem of evil and the problem of God's foreknowledge and human free will. His discussion of time in the *Confessions* and some of his views on language have received considerable philosophical scrutiny. Commentators have disagreed among themselves about whether Augustine invented the notion of the will, and if so, why, and whether doing so was a good thing. Augustine's anti-Pelagian views have been claimed by some to be philosophically problematic and, by others, to be morally offensive. Contributions are invited on any of these topics, as well as on topics that have been relatively neglected by philosophers, such as Augustine's Biblical hermeneutics and his views on science and religion.

### *Calls for Papers*

#### Cultivating Citizens: Soulcraft and Citizenship in Contemporary America

Date: October 28-30, 1999

Place: Baylor University

Submission Deadline: June 30, 1999

The nation's material state has arguably never been better, but many observers express deep concern for the vitality of democratic life in America. Some point to complex pathologies that afflict important segments of society. Others note that disaffection and even cynicism per-

vade the electorate at large. Still others contend that a public-spirited concern for the common good is on the wane. In response to such troubling observations, calls for revitalizing our sense of citizenship and those conditions that nurture it have become increasingly frequent. Some argue, however, that revitalizing citizenship is not possible within the parameters of America's prevailing public philosophy—political liberalism. Others insist that only by drawing from the deep wells of our liberal tradition can we hope to reinvigorate democracy. We therefore invite individual paper proposals, as well as joint panel proposals, from scholars in every relevant discipline, and especially in American studies, history, humanities, law, philosophy, political science, sociology, and religion, who share our interest in and concern for the current state of America's civic culture and public life. Keynote speakers include Jean Bethke Elshtain, University of Chicago, author of *Democracy on Trial* and Michael Sandel, Harvard University, author of *Democracy's Discontent*.

Individual proposals should not exceed two pages and should include a title and a concise abstract that explains how the paper will contribute to the theme of the symposium. Each applicant must also submit a current curriculum vitae. Panel proposals should be organized around no more than three presentations and two discussants and should include a one-page description of the panel and a vitae of each discussant. For further information see

<http://www.baylor.edu/~IFL/events.htm> or contact

Michael\_Beaty@baylor.edu; Dwight\_Allman@baylor.edu. Please send submissions to: Cultivating Citizens, Baylor University, PO Box 97270, Waco, TX 76798-7270.

Religious Faith and Literary Art: An Annual Conference for Writers, Readers, and Scholars at Baylor University

Date: February 24-27, 2000

Place: Baylor University

Submission Deadline: October 1, 1999

We invite proposals from scholars in literature, religion, philosophy, history, drama, film, oral history, popular culture studies, women's studies, American studies, and other relevant disciplines for papers, panels, and performances on the intersection of religion and literature. While we particularly encourage submissions on the Year 2000 conference focus, Religion in the American Century (religion in Twentieth-Century American literature and culture), all proposals on religion and literature will be considered for presentation. Deadline: October 1, 1999.

Send proposals to: Greg Garrett, Dept. of English, Baylor University, Waco, TX 76798-7404; (254) 710-6879; fax: (254) 710-3894; email: Rel-Lit@baylor.edu; [www.baylor.edu/~Rel-Lit/Rel-Lit.html](http://www.baylor.edu/~Rel-Lit/Rel-Lit.html)

Gifford Bequest International Conference: "Natural Theology: Problems and Prospects"

Date: May 26-29, 2000

Place: Aberdeen, Scotland

Submission Deadline: October 15, 1999

Sponsored by the Gifford Lectureship Committees of the Universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and St. Andrews.

For over 100 years the Gifford Lectures have acted as an important stimulus to philosophy and natural theology. The four Gifford Lectureship Committees now wish to provide an international forum for advancing the enterprise of natural theology. Natural theology is understood broadly as the search for knowledge of God without appeal to revelation. Topics include, but are not limited to, the nature of God, arguments for the existence of God, and miracles. Also welcome are papers discussing the bearing on such topics of recent developments in philosophy, theology, and science. Submissions should be 3,000 words or less with a 150-word abstract, be double-space, have a maximum reading length of one-half hour, include personal information and other identifying marks on the cover page only, provide an e-mail address, and be postmarked by October 15, 1999. Include three copies of the paper. Do not send by e-mail attachment. Mail your submission to:

Gifford Conference  
Department of Philosophy  
University of Aberdeen  
Aberdeen AB24 3UB  
Scotland, U.K.

All papers will be blind-reviewed. Those whose papers are accepted will be notified by January 15, 2000.

Featured Speakers and Their Topics:

RICHARD SWINBURNE (author of *The Existence of God*):

Current Prospects for Natural Theology

ELEONORE STUMP (Gifford Lecturer in 2002, University of Aberdeen):

Metaphysics, Personal Identity, and the Incarnation

PAUL DAVIES (author of *God and the New Physics*):

Physical and Cosmological Evidence of Design

MICHAEL BEHE (author of *Darwin's Black Box*):

Biochemical Evidence of Design

Go to [www.abdn.ac.uk/philosophy/phildept.htm](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/philosophy/phildept.htm) after August 1 for more information about the conference. Queries should be directed to Neil A. Manson at the above address, at [n.manson@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:n.manson@abdn.ac.uk), or by calling or faxing 1224-272-366.

### *Fellowships*

The Center for Philosophy of Religion at the University of Notre Dame announces five fellowships for the 2000-2001 academic year. Our *Postdoctoral Fellowships* (two available) provide a stipend of \$35,000 and are offered to those whose tenure at the Center would allow them to grow and make progress in philosophy of religion and theistic philosophy, subsequently disseminating and expanding such work through their own teaching and writing. A *Distinguished Scholar Fellowship* (one available) will offer a stipend of \$45,000 and is intended to provide time for reflection and writing for those whose work is in the forefront of current research in the philosophy of religion or in Christian philosophy. An *Extraordinary Fellowship* (one available) awards a \$40,000 stipend to a scholar who might not qualify for the fellowships described above, but who would benefit from a year at the Center—for example, foreign scholars or those outside the field of philosophy (e.g., theologians who want to enrich their understanding of philosophy of religion and theistic philosophy, humanists from other fields who could benefit by a deeper grasp of the sort of philosophy practiced at the Center, and scholars interested in a theistic approach to psychology, sociology, economics and other subjects.) Finally, a *Visiting Graduate Fellowship* (one available) provides a \$15,000 stipend to a philosophy graduate student at another institution who is working on a dissertation in philosophy of religion or Christian philosophy and who would profit from spending a year at the Center.

Postdoctoral Fellows and Distinguished Scholar Fellows will ordinarily have opportunity to teach one class each semester (\$2,850 per course). All Fellows will have access to many of the University's facilities (e.g., library and gymnasium), to the activities of the Philosophy Department (some seven of whom take philosophy of religion as their primary area of interest) and to the special activities of the Center (e.g., its weekly colloquia). Those with sabbatical support are welcome to apply. Applicants should see that the Center receives each of the following:

- (1) A complete *curriculum vitae*, which should include a list of publications and names of three people you will ask to send letters of recommendation on your behalf.
- (2) Three letters of recommendation.
- (3) A statement of no more than three pages (double-spaced) describing the Fellowship for which you are applying and the project on which you would like to work while at the Center.
- (4) One published or unpublished paper.

All material should be sent to: Alvin Plantinga, Director, Center for Philosophy of Religion, 330 Decio Hall, P.O. Box 1068, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

The deadline for Extraordinary Fellowship and Distinguished Scholar Fellowship applications for 2000-2001 is December 1, 1999; for all other Fellowships, April 1, 2000. E-mail: [cprelig.1@nd.edu](mailto:cprelig.1@nd.edu)